



N 10/684,214

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	THOMAS ET AL.	Examiner:	UNKNOWN
Serial No.:	10/684,214	Group Art Unit:	UNKNOWN
Filed:	OCTOBER 10, 2003	Docket No.:	7542.211US01
Title:	IMPROVED HANDS-FREE TOWEL DISPENSER WITH EMF CONTROLLER		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 20, 2004.

By: Kristen A. Wacek  
Name: Kristen A. Wacek

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each foreign patent document and other document listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is enclosed; and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i), a copy of all U.S. patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided, as this application was filed after June 30, 2003. Applicants first became aware of the LaCour Systems brochure in June, 2000.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

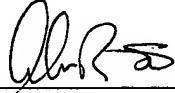
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: 1/20/2004

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan R. Stewart

Reg. No. 47,974  
ARS:PLSkaw

 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number:	Application Number:
	7542.211US01	10/684,214
	Applicant: THOMAS ET AL.	
	Filing Date: 10/10/2003	Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	1,108,855	08/25/1914	Simons			
	1,716,812	06/11/1929	Ball			
	2,299,626	10/20/1942	Hunt			
	2,703,681	03/08/1955	Jacobs			
	2,726,823	12/13/1955	Jespersen			
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	3,084,006	04/02/1963	Roemer			
	3,085,762	04/16/1963	Subklew			
	3,126,234	03/24/1964	Batlas et al.			
	3,211,504	10/12/1965	Bump			
	3,214,014	10/26/1965	Perrin			
	3,294,329	12/27/1966	Tucker et al.			
	3,381,909	05/07/1968	Tucker et al.			
	3,387,902	06/11/1968	Perrin et al.			
	3,433,355	03/18/1969	Smith			
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	4,119,255	10/10/1978	D'Angelo			
	4,131,044	12/26/1978	Cassia			
	4,165,138	08/21/1979	Hedge et al.			

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	

 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 7542.211US01	Application Number: 10/684,214
	Applicant: THOMAS ET AL.	
	Filing Date: 10/10/2003	Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

4,195,787	04/01/1980	Thomason			
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4,522,346	06/11/1985	Jespersen			
4,557,426	12/10/1985	Siciliano			
4,666,099	05/19/1987	Hoffman et al.			
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5,086,526	02/11/1992	Van Marcke			
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5,636,812	06/10/1997	Conner et al.			
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6,056,261	05/02/2000	Aparicio et al.			

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6,293,486	09/25/2001	Byrd et al.			
6,302,352 B1	10/16/2001	Applegate			
6,386,479 B1	05/14/2002	Lewis et al.			
6,412,655	07/02/2002	Stuetzel et al.			
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6,491,251 B1	12/10/2002	Stanland et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
✓	36 03 638 A1	08/13/1987	DE				
✓	37 06 229 A1	03/24/1988	DE				
✓	2649603	01/18/1991	FR				X
✓	2 245 882 A	01/15/1992	GB				
✓	2 247 623 A	03/11/1992	GB				
✓	8602194	03/16/1988	NL				X
✓	WO 90/09755	09/07/1990	PCT			Abstract	
✓	WO 99/58040	11/18/1999	PCT			Abstract	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		LaCour Systems, Inc. <i>ille Toweltronic</i> brochure, undated. (1 pg.)

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